



# Texas Board of Orthotics & Prosthetics

## November 1, 1999 Regular Meeting Minutes

(The Texas Board of Orthotics & Prosthetics met November 1, 1999 10:30 A.M., at the Clarion Inn, 500 North Sam Houston Parkway, Calcutta Room, Houston, Texas. This was the Board's eighteenth regular meeting.)

**Members Present:** Scott Atha, Wanda Furgason, Kenneth (Randy) Hart, Thomas Lunsford, Stanley Thomas, Lupe Young  
**Members Absent:** None  
**TDH Staff Present:** Donna Flippin, Steven Lowenstein, David Richards  
**Others Present:** Samuel Sakowitz, Gus Villarreal

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**ITEM #1: Call to Order - Introduction of Members and Staff** (Scott Atha)

Mr. Atha called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

**ITEM #2: Approval of Minutes from the August 23, 1999, Meeting** (Scott Atha)

The September 30, 1999, meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM #3: Presiding Officer's Report** (Scott Atha)

Berkley Dyer, with the Lt. Governor's staff, visited his facility. He brought up concerns regarding the difference between a foot orthosis and an arch support. Mr. Atha was also concerned about a telephone call he received from a physical therapist who stated that the Physical Therapy Board staff said that licensed physical therapists could fit orthoses without being licensed by the Texas Board of Orthotics & Prosthetics. He mentioned concerns about the selling of orthoses over the Internet (see Item #10) and the fitting of orthoses by athletic trainers.

**ITEM #4: Executive Director's Report** (Donna Flippin)

Ms. Flippin discussed the projected budget for fiscal year 2000 and distributed a report. She reviewed several items in the pre-meeting packet. She also brought the new codification of the Orthotics & Prosthetics Act to the Board's attention.

**ITEM #5: Election of Board Officers** (Scott Atha)

Scott Atha was reelected Presiding Officer and Stanley Thomas was reelected Secretary by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM #6: Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Approve or Disapprove Pending Licensure Applications** (Scott Atha)

The Board reviewed nineteen license applications.

**ITEM #7: Education & Facility Standards Committee Report** (Randy Hart & Thomas Lunsford)

Mr. Hart and Mr. Lunsford reported on the committee meeting that occurred at 9:00 A.M. The committee reviewed a draft document prepared by Mr. Lunsford for submitting quarterly reports on persons completing an orthotic and/or prosthetic clinical residency. They discussed the legal requirements for clinical residency established in the law and rules. They also discussed ensuring that all requirements enforced by the Board be correlated to specific sections of the law and/or rules.

- ITEM #8      Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Approve or Disapprove Pending Facility Accreditation Applications      (Scott Atha)**  
The Board reviewed 31 facility accreditation applications.
- ITEM #9      Discussion and Possible Action on Rules Committee, Education & Facility Standards Committee, and Consumer Information Committee Assignments.      (Scott Atha)**  
Wanda Furgason agreed to fill the vacancies on the Education & Facility Standards and Consumer Information Committees. Lupe Young agreed to Chair the Consumer Information Committee.
- ITEM #10      Other Business Not Requiring Board Action      (Scott Atha)**  
The Board reviewed correspondence received since that last meeting. They discussed orthotics being sold over the Internet. The Board instructed the staff to investigate whether these companies are fulfilling all the licensing and accreditation requirements.  
The Board requested that staff follow-up on contacting State agencies to ensure they are requiring Texas Board of Orthotics & Prosthetics licensure for reimbursement of orthotic and/or prosthetic care.
- ITEM #11      Public Comment      (Scott Atha)**  
Samuel Sakowitz addressed the Board asking for clarification of the definition of comprehensive care and for assistance regarding what he should present at an informal conference and/or formal hearing to show he met the licensure requirements.  
Gus Villarreal addressed the Board and presented information to the Board for its reconsideration of the proposal to deny his license application.
- ITEM #12      Future Meeting Dates      (Scott Atha)**  
Thursday, December 16, 1999, Education and Facility Standards Committee Meeting, 9:30 A.M., in the San Antonio area.  
Thursday, December 16, 1999, Regular Meeting, 10:30 A.M., in the San Antonio area.
- ITEM #13      Future Agenda Items      (Scott Atha)**  
Review Licensure and Facility Accreditation applications  
Clinical Residency Evaluation Packet  
Continuing Education  
Reciprocity
- ITEM #14      Adjournment      (Scott Atha)**  
Mr. Atha adjourned the meeting at 1:47 P.M.
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**Presiding Officer**

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**Executive Director**